

The SOUTHEAST NEWS

OF, BY AND FOR CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES

Volume 2 - Number 1

OCTOBER, 1953



Lanett Congregational Christian Church

This church at Lanett, Ala., is one of the first to receive aid from the Church Building Loan Fund Campaign funds.

CHURCH BUILDING LOAN FUND ISSUE

Report to the People on the Church Building Loan Fund Campaign

By Lowell A. Smoot, Chairman

I would like to invite myself into your home now, sit down with you for a few moments and tell you exactly where we stand on the Church Building Loan Fund project. As your Convention Chairman, I have been working tirelessly on this project for nine months and can still see much hard work ahead if we are to reach our goal 100%. It has given me joy and inspiration to work at a task like this because the generations to come will benefit from our efforts.

You know that the fair share which has been suggested for the Southeast Convention to raise is \$30,000. Now this amount is only 6/10 of one per cent of the total \$4,500,000 which our entire fellowship has set out to raise. To date we in this area have sent in Declarations to the CBLF headquarters totaling \$23,256. We have subscribed 77% of our goal.

A number of others have told me that they have voted their suggested goals but have failed to send in the Declaration of Purpose stating what they intend to do. If these churches will send their Declarations to the office, our percentage will be raised to almost 82%.

Many of us here in our Convention churches are anxious that we succeed with this very important project. We have given our time and our efforts that we might succeed. We have been constant in prayer. If we succeed, we will succeed together; if we fail, we will fail together. I like to think that we are bound together by the Spirit of Christ for in this great Christian adventure we are "members one of another."

Now, as I chat with you about this important phase of our program, a question comes to my mind which I would like to ask you as a fellow-member of Christ's Kingdom—What is your opinion of this great adventure? Would you be content to see the Southeast Convention fail when others are succeeding? I feel perfectly sure that on second thought you wouldn't. And if you give the matter a second serious thought, you will realize its importance and resolve to do something about it.

I hope we all keep in mind that this is the largest and most intensive program of Christian advance that our entire denomination has undertaken in this generation. It is not a task for a few people, but a joyous undertaking for each member of our fellowship. Let me emphasize here at this point that what happens depends on YOU. In any phase of Christian living and work, you as an individual must be willing before God can take you and use you in any way for Kingdom work. When we really become Christians, patterned after the Spirit of Christ, we will become concerned, deep in our hearts; we will begin to act. Our concern will cause us to become "doers and not hearers only."

The task of raising \$6,744, the amount needed to reach our goal and fair share for the Convention, is going to have the full cooperation of all. All of us must direct our prayers and efforts to this end.

All of our Conferences and Associations have committees set up to get the job done. Our success is going to depend largely on the activity of each committee. Where a committee fails to function, the lead is shifted to someone else. A list of the committees will be found elsewhere in this issue of the magazine.

To date there are two churches in the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference that have not sent in their Declaration of Purpose; eighteen churches in the Georgia Conference, and forty churches in the Alabama Conference that have failed thus far to share in this program. We are publishing a list of the churches in this issue that have subscribed and the amount of their pledge. If you fail to see your church on that list, find out from your pastor why it is not listed. You may be the one to start a crusade in your church to get its share voted and on record. We need your help badly.

I do trust and pray that in the very near future God will be able to look down on each of us and say, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant . . ."

Before I leave you, I do want to say that I will probably see you the last of October. Dr. Nelson C. Dreier is returning to this area at that time to work with us for a few days. If you have not met Dr. Dreier you will want to make a special effort to get acquainted with him when he comes your way. We will be looking forward to seeing you.

Dr. Dreier's Tentative Schedule

- Oct. 26 - Lanett Highway Church at 7:30 P.M. (EST) Supper meeting.
- Oct. 27 - Alabama Conference, Andalusia, Ala.
- Oct. 28 - Waycross William's Chapel at 7:30 P.M. (EST) Supper meeting.
- Oct. 29 - Fort Valley, First for noon meeting with lunch at the church. (Society Hill, Fort Valley & Pleasant Hill).
- Oct. 29 - Crest, Hebron at 7:30 - supper.
- Oct. 30 - Hampton, County Line - noon meeting with luncheon.
- Oct. 30 - Braselton, Macedonia at 7:30 P.M. with dinner for church for No. Ga. Parish.
- Oct. 31 - West Point Bethel at 7:30 P.M. Dinner meeting.
- Nov. 1 - LaGrange Hillside at 7:30 P.M.
- Nov. 2 - Roanoke, Lowell at 7:30 P.M. (CST). Dinner meeting at church for Mt. Zion; Five Points, State Line, Wadley, Corinth, and Caver's Grove.

(Please turn to page 5)

Churches That Have Sent In Their Declarations of Purpose

Kentucky-Tennessee Conference

Soddy, First	\$ 400.00
Daisy Community	534.00
Memphis, First	1,108.00
Crossville, First	200.00
Chattanooga, Pilgrim	2,414.00
Glen Mary Congregational	58.00
Pleasant Hill Community	760.00
Deer Lodge	26.00
Robbins	150.00
Corbin, Pilgrim	206.00
	<u>\$5,856.00</u>

Georgia-South Carolina Conference

Demorest, Federated	382.00
Barnesville, Fredonia	384.00
Meansville, Cong'l	82.00
Meansville, Liberty Chapel	40.00
The Rock, Bethany	44.00
Douglas, First	60.00
Pearson, Union Hill	250.00
Baxley, Friendship	162.00
Woodbury, Jones Chapel	100.00
Columbus, North Highland	550.00
Doerun, New Light	60.00
Doerun, Poplar Arbor	24.00
Charleston, Circular	500.00
Columbus, United	400.00
Chiple, Oak Grove	218.00
LaGrange, United	1,508.00
Atlanta, Center	760.00
Atlanta, Central	1,000.00
	<u>\$6,524</u>

Alabama Conference

Alexander City, Antioch	10.00
Andalusia, Antioch	300.00
Langdale	1,600.00
Seman, Balm of Gilead	40.00
Lineville, Spring Hill	58.00
Alexander City, Hunt Memorial	400.00
Thorsby, United	378.00
Phenix City, United	960.00
Headland, Blackwood	252.00
Midland City, Christian Hill	32.00
Birmingham, Pilgrim	2,600.00
Andalusia, Coldwater	80.00
Roanoke, Antioch	134.00
Eclectic, Watson's Chapel	100.00
Andalusia, First	590.00
Roanoke, Bethany	74.00
Roanoke, Rock Springs	60.00
Shawmut, Todd	264.00
Wedowee, Noon Day	144.00
Lanett	1,482.00
Roanoke, Rock Stand	86.00
Roanoke, New Hope	85.00
Clanton, East View	22.00
Seman, Community	102.00
Hanceville, Mountain Grove	120.00
Dadeville, Elder	75.00
Wadley, Cong'l	200.00
Wadley, Beulah	108.00
Tallassee, Mt. Olive	200.00
E. Tallassee, Liberty	320.00
	<u>\$10,876</u>



DR. NELSON C. DREIER

Let's Finish the Job!

The Southeast Convention has given a very good account of itself in the Church Building Loan Fund Campaign. On a goal of \$30,000 Declarations of Purpose have reached the New York office of the campaign for \$23,256, by Sept. 24. The national total is over \$3,500,000. This is a wonderful record. Congratulations to the many churches and leaders that have made it possible.

The only conference or convention in Area III ahead of the Southeast Convention is Florida. They have gone over the top for 101%. Southeast will be next to go over the top.

This splendid record is due in no small degree to the wonderful work of the Rev. Lowell Smoot, Chairman of the Convention Committee, and his fine workers. Their efforts has been ably supported by the encouragement of Supt. Erston M. Butterfield and Rev. C. Carl Dollar. This type of co-operation is sure to spell VICTORY.

It will be a great thing for the Southeast Convention to reach 100%. It will demonstrate that the great and important work of this expanding area need no lack for support when there is the will to accomplish results. It will say to your superintendent that the area means business. It will say to the denomination that the investment of concern and support by the fellowship is appreciated and will be matched by backing from the churches and its leaders.

I personally want to thank all of you, committee people and leaders, for what you have done. I know the other churches will all do their part quickly. This program is not just raising money. It is helping to make the church of Jesus Christ

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THE SOUTHEAST NEWS

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Letter From Koror, Caroline Islands

Mrs. Jettie Logan is sharing with us a letter she received from Hilde Thiem, missionary speaker at the Alabama Women's Spring Rallies this year:

"I had a good trip from the States to Guam. There I had to wait for two weeks to get a plane reservation to Palau. I was disappointed at first, that was very foolish and I have experienced once more that it is best to trust the Lord fully, even in travel delays. I had a wonderful time in the home of an American Navy Chaplain, who has meanwhile returned to the States. I felt very much at home with them, and as they returned they were able to let me have many of their things they did not want to take along, as lamps, cans, pans and pots and curtains and mats and many other useful things. Also I got a big box of used summer clothing for children as well as for men and women. As the natives are very poor after the war, this is a real help. First I gave shirts and trousers to our native helpers and their wives and the rest goes to those of our Christians who need it most.

"On July 2 I arrived here safely. A real crowd was gathered at the airport and I was looking for the high official who might have come, until I learned they all had come to welcome me. You should have seen the children, they shouted with joy and clapped their hands when I addressed them in the palau language. They had been told I could not speak Palauan and they could not believe it until they heard me talk.

"At present I help teaching the boys in the morning, and three times a week I have a girls' Bible class. Last Sunday I visited the sick ones in the hospital together with these girls. We sang and distributed English Sunday School papers, and we talked to them. It was wonderful. This morning I visited people in the village. So I am pretty busy, and that's why I have to end this letter.

"May God's blessing be with you, at home and in your work for the Lord,

Yours in His blessed service,
Hilde Thiem"

Harvest Festival - 1953

The celebration of "harvest home" is very old and has a place in the history of many peoples. The maturing of harvest inspired men to expressions of praise and thanksgiving which found their way into the religious services of all lands and faiths. The Pilgrims kept their day of thanksgiving on the shores of New England with feasting and religious exercises.

Some churches, like Reformed, Lutheran Moravian, Mennonite and Brethren, have continued to celebrate "harvest home," but in some other communions this practice has been all but abandoned, or the emphasis has shifted to Thanksgiving Day in late autumn and the remembrance of national blessings, with but minor reference to the bounties of the harvest. This unfortunate trend has produced a nation of town and country churches in whose worship the references to seed-time and harvest are peculiarly lacking. No worship can, without losing its vitality, remove itself from the ordinary pursuits of men. It is especially in connection with agriculture, where mystery and providence are so evident, that this needs to be kept in mind.

The "Order of Service" for the Harvest Festival may be ordered from the Town & Country Dept., 287 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y. at 75c per hundred copies.

Sorry, No Funds!!

A familiar and beloved landmark is missing from many of today's communities—the church steeple.

Residential areas have sprung up all over the country carefully designed and constructed to meet the basic needs of the inhabitants. In addition to the homes there are markets, shops, theaters, recreation halls, and schools, all centrally and conveniently located. But very often, no churches.

During the past six months sixty-nine applications for loans from all over the country have been chosen for final consideration at meetings of the Church Building Committee out of the hundreds of possible candidates. Monetarily, the pleas for aid for building, expanding, or remodeling church plants totaled more than a million dollars, almost one quarter of the entire amount being sought in the Church Building Loan Fund Campaign. And this is only six months!

At the April meeting of the Church Building Committee, twenty-one churches received appropriations, three more a short time later, and in June six additional churches, for a combined total appropriation of \$389,171. More than half of all the applications were turned down. Every project had merit. Each had been carefully investigated, examined, and re-examined on both the Conference and national levels before being chosen for final consideration. Why, then, did they not receive the aid they sought? **NO FUNDS AVAILABLE.**

We need to complete the campaign, to raise and to send in the funds at the earliest possible moment. The need is NOW.

— SUPERINTENDENT'S PAGE —

Church Builders

In the widest sense of the term we are all "church builders"—that's our task. Our participation in the Church Building Loan Fund is one evidence of our faithful performance of our Christian duty; so I do hope all of our churches, recognizing this fact, will assume their fair share in this most worthy venture.

A good many people in churches throughout the Convention have actually built churches—Antioch (Andalusia, Ala.), Poplar Arbor (Doerun, Ga.) Good Hope (Baker, Fla.)—all are new churches completed within the last few months! Lanett and Pleasant Grove (Ala.) are nearing completion and the first service in the new Rock Stand Church (Roanoke, Ala.) was held on Sept. 27. Many churches have taken on a "new look"—Mt. Moriah (Moulton, Ala.), Pilgrim (Corbin, Ky.), Fredonia (Barnesville, Ga.), Williams Chapel (Waycross, Ga.) Highland Columbus, Ga.), Rock Springs (Roanoke, Ala.), Wadley (Ala.), Antioch (Roanoke, Ala.), United (LaGrange, Ga.)—all have built additions or have been redecorated on the inside, the outside, or both within the past few months. First Church, Roanoke, Ala., is installing new windows.

Phenix City United (Ala.) and New Effort (near Bonifay, Fla.) have building projects nearing completion.

Union Hill (Pearson, Ga.) has its minister, the Rev. Earl Hand, and his family housed in a beautiful new parsonage. Mt. Olive (East Tallahassee, Ala.) and Hebron (Crest, Ga.) have parsonages under construction and a number of other churches are thinking about getting started.

Just last week Todd (Shawmut, Ala.) and Bethel (West Point, Ga.) began their building projects—the one is building a new sanctuary and the other a new Christian Education unit.

That makes a total of more than twenty-seven churches that have been engaged in major "building" within the past few months. (Now, I am well aware that I've probably missed at least ten churches, but please forgive me and don't think I did it on purpose. It's only because I'm just not thinking straight. Yesterday was a full day requiring 592 miles of driving—so I'm still asleep.)

However, the listing is long enough to illustrate the church building activity throughout the Convention. All of these important building ventures were successful because of the sacrificial giving of money, time, and talent on the part of the local congregation—the members who, hammered sawed, painted, and contributed in countless other ways to the total project. To one and all our sincere congratulations.

Just as we rejoice in our own local achievements, we are glad for every opportunity to help others realize their dreams. So we give liberally from our resources to nation-wide projects like the Church Building Loan Fund. Most of our churches have been able to "build" without out-

side aid, but some communities are not so fortunate. They need our help!

Our younger daughter, Kathleen, learned a new Bible verse last Sunday: "Love one another." How much of our Christian Way can be summed up in that one short verse! It's in the spirit of Christ and His loving concern for all people that we serve God's children everywhere. Our Christian World Mission begins with each member and every local church and extends throughout our communities, state and nation and reaches around the world. Certainly that's a mission worthy of our best efforts.

In loving concern, one for the other, let's finish the CBLF Campaign now before us and keep Building in the Southeast!

—Erston M. Butterfield

The Joy Of It

And the Master said, "I gave a church into your keeping; what have you done with my church?" The minister answered, "My people and I have helped build five other churches and we have tried to train up and inspire our youth to be ready to be their leaders and pastors." The Master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of your Lord."

And to the second minister, he said, "What have you done with the church I gave to you?" He replied, "My people and I have been through sorrow and storm and are in close Christian fellowship with them." The Master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of your Lord."

And to the third minister he said, "And you too, what have you done with my church?" And the third minister replied, "We have taken good care of your church but we have been occupied with our own problems and too busy with our building program to be able to reach out to other churches."

You remember the ending. That church, alas, did not get to know the joy of their Lord.

Adapted from a familiar parable,
Courtesy of Helen Kenyon

REPORT ON LOAN FUND CAMPAIGN

(From page 2)

- Nov. 2 - Ministers' Meeting Monday morning and afternoon.
- Nov. 3 - Trinity Friendship at Caddo at 7:30. No. Ala. Asso. churches invited.
- Nov. 4 - Richland, First at 7:30 (EST). Dinner meeting. Providence Chapel, Richland also invited.

The basis of mental and moral strength for our children lies in spiritual things. It lies first of all in the home. And next, it lies in the religious and moral influences that are brought to bear on the children.

Fall Conference and Association Meetings

THEME: "WE ARE BUILDING" East Alabama Association

Meeting at the Lanett Church, Lanett, Ala., the East Alabama Association will convene Oct. 14 at 10:30 A.M. and will adjourn Oct. 15 at 2:00 P.M.

The Moderator is the Rev. Joe A. French, and principal speakers will be Walter A. Graham, Director of the National Laymen's Fellowship; Dr. A. R. Van Cleave; Rev. C. Carl Dollar; Rev. Ernest J. Arnold, Director of the National Council of Churches; and Rev. Allyn K. Wadleigh.

Discussion groups on "How Our Fellowship Can Promote the Interests of the Southeast Convention" will be held as follows: Young People with Millard Fuller, Convention President of Pilgrim Fellowship, and the Rev. John E. Pickens, Jr., Chairman of Convention Committee on Christian Education and Youth Work; the women with Mrs. Joe A. French, chairman, and Mrs. Lowell A. Smoot, Alabama State President; the laymen with Harry Barr, chairman, and Odell Yancy; and the ministers with Rev. Olin E. Sheppard, chairman, and Supt. Erston M. Butterfield.

A stewardship skit on the Every Member Cavanaugh, written and directed by the Rev. Carolyn Welch, will be presented also.

Georgia-South Carolina Conference

The Georgia-South Carolina Conference will meet at the United Church, Columbus, Ga., and will open at 10:30 A.M. Oct. 21 and close at noon Oct. 22.

Dr. D. W. Shepherd will be the Chaplain and the principal speakers will be the Rev. Arnold Slater, Moderator of the Southeast Convention, Dr. A. R. Van Cleave, Rev. J. D. Dollar, Rev. Henry Weaver and Rev. C. Carl Dollar. The Assistant Moderator, the Rev. Ralph Worley, will moderate the meeting, since the Moderator, Richard Drake, will be unable to attend because of teaching responsibilities at Emory University.

Seminars will lead as follows: the men with Rev. Erston M. Butterfield, Superintendent of the Southeast Convention; the women with Mrs. Peter Doherty, state president; and the young people with the Rev. John E. Pickens, Jr.

Kentucky-Tennessee Conference

This conference will be held at the Community Church, Stearns, Ky., with the Rev. J. W. Davenport as Moderator. Dates are Oct. 24-25, 1953, with the general session to open at 2:00 P.M. on the 24th and close at 3:00 P.M. on the 25th.

Alabama Conference

The Antioch Church in Andalusia, Ala., will be host to the Alabama Conference on Oct. 27-28. Sessions will begin at 10:00 A.M. CST on the 27th. Dr. Nelson C. Dreier will be the main speaker and he will also conduct seminars on Stewardship during the Conference. Dr. Dreier is Area III Chairman of the Church Building Loan Fund Campaign and will also conduct area meetings on stewardship in local churches, following his speaking engagement at the Alabama Conference. His itinerary is listed in this issue of the magazine.

School of Churchmanship

The East Alabama-West Georgia Laymen's Fellowship of the Congregational Christian Churches will hold a School of Churchmanship at Southern Union College on October 11, 1953, with Odell Yancy presiding.

The theme of the meeting is "Christ Calls Men." Sunday, October 11 begins Churchman's Week. A week of related activities in which thousands of churchmen over America will be participating. The School of Churchmanship is another step in building, not only a stronger Laymen's Fellowship for our area, but also building stronger churches. As we recognize that Christ calls men to "get into harness" in their own churches, we recognize that we must be trained for the job "that we may work the works of God."

The inspirational message will be given by Walter Graham, National Director of the Laymen's Fellowship. Other outstanding speakers will be Herman Cook, Convention President of Laymen's Fellowship, Walter Crutchfield, James Dollar, the Rev. David W. Shepherd, Winfred Walters, the Rev. John E. Pickens, Jr., Rufus Farrah, the Rev. Joe A. French, and Tom Crenshaw.

For a splendid time of training and fellowship together attend our school. Registration is \$1.50 which includes the cost of your dinner. Send your registration to Herman Patterson, Southern Union College, Wadley, Ala.

Stewardship Nuggets

By Warren H. Denison

It is quite common for one to think that his giving to Christian causes is **expense**. This is a basic error. Giving is **investment** rather than expense. It gives one a far different attitude of mind when he realizes that his giving is investment rather than cost and expense. God is a bountiful God. He multiplies spiritually and materially what we invest in His work. Behold every harvest field! Such a change of attitude will give a new joy to the giver. Stewardship does not subtract from life and purse.

* * *

It is an error to think that Christian Stewardship is an elective course, that it is like dessert at a meal - all right, good nice - not a necessity or a basic philosophy of life. On the other hand, it is vital, fundamental, and undergirds all our relations to the material area of life, the economic, the oikonomos area.

* * *

When churches reduce their benevolent budgets below what they should be they find almost invariably that they have a more difficult time in securing them, and they are further finding that instead of helping to secure their current budgets, it is more difficult to underwrite them. When will we ever learn what a mistake it is to minimize benevolent giving!

* * *

Christian Stewardship must begin with me before it can get into my home, group, board or church. This applies to a father, a pastor, a trustee, a deacon, a denominational secretary, a church-school teacher, a committeeman.

THE I.C.C. ST. ANDREWS, SCOTLAND

By Miriam Heermans

From the first news that the International Congregational Council would be held in St. Andrews, Scotland, I was irresistably drawn toward that lovely, old university town on the shore of the North Sea, and how richly I was rewarded for my months of planning and saving!

Mr. Cecil Northcott gave a splendid summary of the Council meetings and their high-lights in the August 24 issue of *Advance*, so my report will deal largely with sidelights and the representation of this area in St. Andrews.

I had the honor of being one of the five official delegates appointed by the Women's Fellowship, the others being Miss Margaret Hargrove, of New York, the national secretary of women's work; Mrs. W. B. Buckham of California, national president of the Women's Fellowship; Mrs. George Kahlenberg from Wisconsin; and Mrs. A. G. Naundorf from the state of Washington. From Elon, North Carolina, came Superintendent and Mrs. W. T. Scott and the Rev. and Mrs. O. H. White, daughter Cynthia, and Miss Eunice Kirtland from Tyron, N. C.; Mr. Walter Graham, national director of the Laymen's Fellowship, from Ky.; Miss G. M. Green from Florida; President and Mrs. Arthur Gray from Talledega College, Ala. (Dr. Gray was one of the principal speakers); the Rev. N. G. Newman from Virginia and the Rev. and Mrs. Peter Doherty from Georgia. If I have omitted any I apologize, as it was difficult to meet everyone, living as we did in several university dormitories, and printed lists have been known to make mistakes.

About twenty delegates, who went over on the Queen Elizabeth, stayed together from the time she landed, June 8, until the opening of the Council on June 20. A reception for the American delegates and others already in London was given at the Congregational headquarters in Memorial Hall on June 9 and we had our first opportunity to meet many who were responsible for the later meetings at St. Andrews—and the tea and cakes were delicious. (287 Fourth Avenue and 19 South LaSalle Street are well matched by the London offices, book store and committee rooms.)

Plans had been made in advance for a very interesting five days in London and its surroundings—Stratford-on-Avon, Oxford, Eton, Warwick, Windsor, Stoke-Poges, and Hampton Court—and then for a delightful tour by bus to Cambridge, Scrooby, the cathedral towns of Peterborough, Lincoln and York, and through the lake country to Scotland. There we had two busy days sightseeing and shopping in Edinburgh before going on to St. Andrews.

I took notes diligently for the first two or three days, but then gave up and specialized on people. It was quite an experience to have a delegate from British Guiana sing The Tennessee Waltz to me. I wasn't real sure where her country was. India, South Africa, Australia, Ireland (I didn't know we had Congregational Christian churches there!), Puerto Rico, Holland, Denmark, and Germany—

with of course many from England, Wales and Scotland—were all ably represented. I do not know which were the most difficult to understand.

The morning sessions were broken after the two general addresses and time out was given for a cup of coffee (tea in the afternoon), then back to the seminars until lunch time. In the smaller groups the "common folk" were encouraged to speak up, and did—some more than others—and some very lively discussions resulted.

Most of the afternoons were free for strolling along the beautiful beach, having a round of golf on the world-famous golf course, taking a bus to a nearby fishing village, and always returning in time for a cup of tea. I shall never forget the handsome kiltie band which welcomed us with such music as can come only from a bagpipe; the procession of city fathers in their official robes, led by the lady mayor in her big hat and insignia hanging around her neck, the ancient mace carried by another, and the long line of dignitaries in their university robes of many colors—all making their way in the rain (the only one we had) to the Sunday evening service; the Scotch folk dances on the grounds of the ancient castle, with the ocean in the background; and the lovely Scotch concert, closing with the beautiful music setting of the 23rd Psalm, in which the entire audience joined.

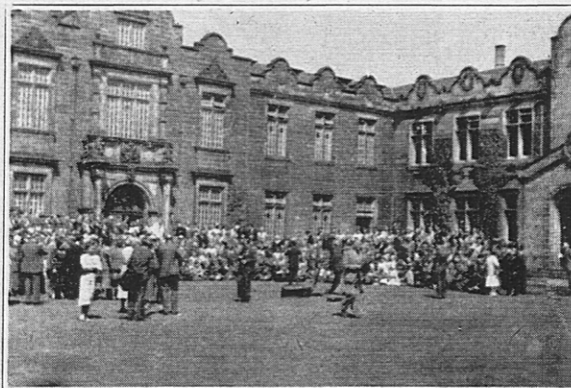
The place of the next meeting has not yet been decided upon, but both Australia and Hawaii sent invitations—so save your money!

* * *

Miss Heermans, of Pleasant Hill, Tenn., is well known in the Southeast Convention, and for many years was president of the Kentucky-Tennessee Women's Fellowship.

Miss Heermans made colored slides of her trip, which she will show, with descriptive comments, at the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference meeting October 24-25, Stearns, Ky.

She is an active worker in the Pleasant Hill Community Church and is serving as a member of the Speaker's Bureau of the Church Building Loan Fund campaign.



Quadrangle of St. Salvators College, where the seminars and other group meetings were held, including about one-half of the delegates present.

The Gideon Club of Church Builders

On Sunday, August 30, a congregation numbering nearly 300 gathered at our new Congregational Christian Church in Tifton, Ga., for a rally sponsored by The Gideon Club of Church Builders. Representatives were on hand from churches throughout Georgia and South Alabama.

The Rev. A. Goff Bedford of Langdale, Ala., served as Moderator. Other participants included: Rev. C. Carl Dollar, Rev. W. C. Carpenter, and Rev. Erston M. Butterfield, Superintendent. An interesting and informative panel discussion was presented by J. T. Gill, Chairman with Rev. Earl Hand, Lester Shaw, Mrs. A. J. Mixon, G. E. Turner, Rev. A. G. Bedford, Rev. Carl Dollar, Rev. Ralph Worley, Mrs. B. W. James, and Miss Helen Sears. A number of beautiful and inspirational musical numbers were given by various churches.

The Gideon Club of Church Builders is a voluntary, grass-roots movement which first developed in South Georgia. Although it has no official relationship to the Georgia Conference or the Southeast Convention, its purpose is to help build Congregational Churches. In brief the plan is this: To develop a membership of 1000 men, women and young people who will pledge themselves to stand by with an average donation of \$5.00 for each new church project approved for aid by the club Board of Trustees. This would make available a \$5,000 grant to each new church. Such funds would be placed in a local bank in the community where the new church is located to be drawn upon in equal proportion to what the church raises above the price of the lot.

It is immediately evident what a powerful influence for good this organization could exert upon



Rev. Goff Bedford (2nd from left) congratulating the newly elected officers: (Left to right) J. T. Gill, Treasurer; John Dees, Vice President; Lester Shaw, President; and W. C. Carpenter, Secretary.

the Congregational Christian program of church extension.

The Club now lists 273 members, many of whom are not Congregational Christians and some who live far from the Southeast area. Total pledges paid to date toward the first two projects—Douglas and Tifton—amount to \$1260.00. And this is just the beginning!

At the Tifton rally a Constitution was adopted, officers elected, and a panel discussion held to clarify the purposes and procedures of the club.

Because of the far-reaching importance of this new movement, its Constitution is printed in full in this issue of the magazine, beginning on Page nine. Give Special attention to Article VII Procedure, Section 1: Grant Aid; and Section 2: Eligibility.

"Our Christian World Mission" and the successful completion of the Church Building Loan Fund Campaign must, of necessity, receive our first consideration and support. But there are many who will want to do more, especially in this much needed work of church extension. The Gideon Club of Church Builders provides the opportunity. It will welcome you as a member.

If you wish to join with the hundreds of others in this significant work, or if you want more information, just send your first pledge of five dollars to the Treasurer, J. T. Gill, Rt. — Box —, Ocilla, Ga., or write the Secretary, the Rev. W. C. Carpenter, Rt. 5, Tifton, Ga.

Join now and help build!

* * *

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of this organization shall be The Gideon Club of Church Builders.

ARTICLE II. OBJECT

The object of this club shall be to bind together followers of Jesus Christ for the purpose of sharing in the task of building His Church within the fellowship of the Southeast Convention of Congregational Christian Churches.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

Membership in this club is open to all who wish to promote the building of new churches and are willing to pledge themselves to contribute Five Dollars (\$5.00) or more for each new church project approved by the governing board or the membership of the club. Each member shall be provided with a card certifying his standing upon payment of the first pledge. Any member may terminate his membership at any time by returning his membership card, together with a statement of his desired action, to the Secretary.

ARTICLE IV. MEETINGS

The Gideon Club of Church Builders shall meet annually on the last Sunday in August at a time and place determined by the Board of Trustees. Other meetings may be held at any time upon the call of the President and Secretary or the Board

of Trustees. A quorum shall consist of thirty members.

ARTICLE V. OFFICERS

The officers of this club shall be the following:

President: The president shall be elected at the annual meeting for a term of one year. He shall preside at all meetings of the club and the Board of Trustees and shall present at the annual meeting a written report of the activities of the club.

Vice President: The Vice president shall be elected at the annual meeting for a term of one year. He shall preside at all meetings in the absence of the President and shall assume such other duties as may be assigned to his office by the Board of Trustees, of which he shall be a member.

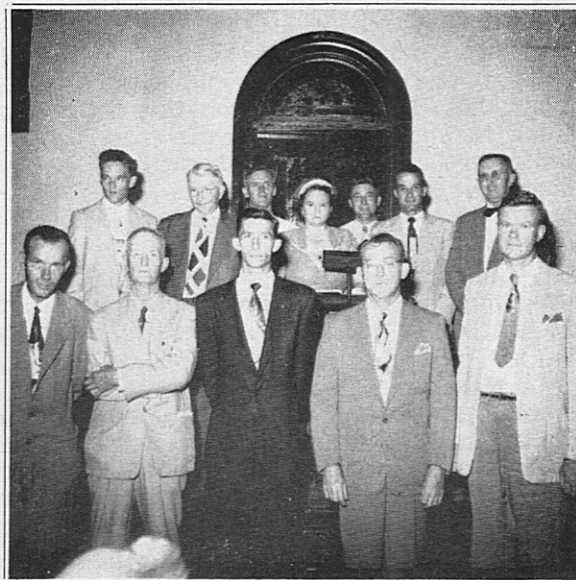
Secretary: A secretary shall be elected by the club in annual session to serve for a term of three years. He shall keep the minutes of all meetings of the club and the Board of Trustees, of which he shall be a member, and perform such other duties as usually pertain to the office of secretary. He shall keep an up-to-date file of the membership including names, addresses, and the association or conference of Congregational Christian Churches to which they belong; or, in the case of members not holding Congregational Christian standing, the name and address of their home church.

He shall keep all members informed concerning the meetings and activities of the club, and present a written report at each meeting of the Board of Trustees.

Treasurer: The club in annual session shall elect a Treasurer for a term of three years. He shall receive all moneys in payment of pledges to new church projects and give receipts for the same. He shall deposit funds received in such depository as the Trustees shall order. Under the direction of the Trustees he shall keep accurate accounts of all receipts and disbursements and give such bond as the Trustees shall prescribe. He shall present a complete financial report at every session of the Board of Trustees of which he shall be a member.



J. T. GILL MODERATING THE PANEL DISCUSSION



Officers and Board of Trustees of The Gideon Club of Church Builders. Front row (left to right): J. T. Gill, E. E. Smith, F. C. Barner, L. H. Shaw, C. H. Morris. Back row (left to right): John Dees, D. S. Hogg, G. E. Turner, Mrs. H. Y. Sears, W. C. Carpenter, Jr., D. H. Long, W. C. Carpenter.

ARTICLE VI. GOVERNING BODY

The governing body of this club shall be a Board of Trustees consisting of nine members, in addition to the officers, elected for terms of three years in such manner that the terms of three members shall expire annually. After serving two full terms a trustee shall be for one year ineligible for reelection.

The Board of Trustees shall meet at least twice each year at the call of the President. A quorum shall consist of seven members. They shall have the power to determine the new church projects to receive grants from the club and shall appoint such committees as may be necessary to carry on their work. They shall fill all vacancies occurring in any of the offices, such appointments to cover only the unexpired term of such officers.

The Board shall mail to all members a yearly report of all activities, including a progress report on the various new church projects receiving aid from the club.

ARTICLE VII. PROCEDURE

Section 1: Grant Aid

Requests for Grant Aid to new church projects shall be received by the President or Secretary and referred to the Board of Trustees who shall make a survey to determine the wisdom and worthiness of said project, and after due consideration vote upon the request. If the vote is favorable they will notify all members of the action so that pledges may be promptly paid and the necessary funds be placed in a local bank in the community where the new church is located to be drawn upon in equal proportion to what the church raises above the price of the lot. Except at the express vote of the membership, aid to any one church shall not exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000).

(Please turn to page 15)

CHURCH NEWS

Work has been resumed on the new church building in Lanett, Ala., and the **Lanett Church** members are busy planning in order to have an adequate program completed by the time the much improved church facilities are ready for use in the near future.

The old church building has been purchased by the Assembly of God fellowship, and the redecorated parsonage was sold to the West Point Mfg. Co.

The Missionary Societies have been alert to the coming needs of the kitchen of the new church. Large aluminum boilers, pitchers and stainless steel flatware have been purchased by the sale of Bedford products. At present the women are concentrating on purchasing dishes—good, serviceable ones.

Our Sunday evening worship service on August 29 was in the form of Vespers at Pine Mountain Valley. The group motored over in the afternoon and after a bountiful picnic supper went to the amphitheatre on top of the mountain for the service. Appropriate hymns, scripture selections, a poem and a solo were used while the group drank in the inspiration of the surroundings and the beauty of the sunset. This type of service has been an annual affair for several years and is inspiring and enjoyable.

On September 6, Labor Day, a unique service of blessing the tools of labor was featured. Each person was asked to bring some symbol or tool of his livelihood for the service.

A Service of Recognition was held on August 30 for the young people of the church fellowship who have been, or will be, in college. During the year four of our young people graduated from Alabama Polytechnic Institute and received their Bachelor degrees: Marvin Brand, Jeanette Daily, Charles Fetner and Coleman Yates. Carey Seymour received his degree from the U. of Alabama, Margaret Beaird spent the year in graduate study at Tulane, and Naomi Seymour, Ouida Seymour, and William Spear finished courses at Business College. Those who will be at A.P.I. this year are: Buford Bishop, Edgar Dailey, Millard Fuller, Julius Hill, Richard Mann and Doris Sims. Hessie Murphy and D. Lawrence Moncus are enrolled in Southern Union, Charles Boggs will be at the U. of Alabama. Michael Burdette will be at E. Tenn. State College.

To all these students, and to those at school here, we commend their progress and their desire for learning and earnestly pray that they shall be learning to live a life after the pattern of the greatest teacher of all—Jesus Christ.

We are looking forward to the East Alabama Association meeting on Oct. 14-15, and anticipate a good representation from the churches.

Mrs. A. D. Harry

The members of **Pilgrim Church, Corbin, Ky.**, are happy to welcome our new pastor, A. G. DeCoursey, now in his senior year at Union College, Barbourville, Ky. Mr. DeCoursey plans to enter

Boston University Theological School next fall. He is a native of Wayland, Ky. Mr. DeCoursey will spend the week-ends in Corbin.

The church bell, as old as the church itself, has been mounted on a stone block at the side of the building. The men of the church were responsible for this splendid gesture. Plans are to add a small bronze plaque giving the date of the founding of Pilgrim Church.

It was with real pride that Miss Clara Rennebaum, treasurer, announced that the church organ had been paid for in less than a year. The dedication service will be held soon.

At last the green shingle roof we have talked about for so long is becoming a reality, and is in process of being put on the church proper.

On Sept. 6 we had the pleasure of hearing the Rev. Ramsey Swain, former pastor, preach for the morning service. It was an added pleasure to have him play his violin and to hear Mrs. Swain sing. The Rev. Swain is now pastor of the Auburn Community Church, Auburn, Ohio. He and Mrs. Swain were visiting relatives in Corbin.

Women's Fellowship

During Corbin's Nibroc Festival the women of the church yard and sold chili buns and drinks for three days, clearing almost \$100 to be used for redecorating the interior of the church. The fellowship enjoyed during the project was worth as much as the monetary gain.

In the early part of September, a lawn festival was held at which home-made cake and candy was offered the public. The proceeds from this were applied to the roof fund.

Mrs. Edward Cummins

The Pyron's Chapel Church of Baker, Fla., served by the Rev. P. M. Griffith, reports eight additions to the church rolls during the summer preaching mission. The church attendance has increased to an average of sixty; and the Sunday School, which was begun only two years ago, now has an average attendance of sixty-five with seventy enrolled.

Miss Earline Barnhill, the eleven year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Rily Barnhill, has a record of attendance in Sunday School for two years without missing a Sunday. Earline also won a week's outing at the Baptist Camp in Panama City for learning 300 Bible verses. She is in the seventh grade.

The Woman's Christian Service Club of the **Phenix City Church** had a hot dog sale at the church on Aug. 22, selling hot dogs, cold drinks, and home-made pies. The proceeds from the sale amounted to \$43.40, which was applied to their pledge for the Church Building Loan Fund.

The Pilgrim Fellowship has resumed its meetings after the summer months, and their first activity was a Folk Game Party on Sept. 26 at the WRBL Radio Station Auditorium. They have also held a visitation program to enlarge the group.

The Laymen's Fellowship had their annual

(Please turn to page 16)

Valparaiso Community Church

By Collie Seymour

The Valparaiso Community Church had its beginning in The Union Mission of Valparaiso which was organized in 1920. It was so named because the people wanted to meet and worship together rather than divide into denominational groups. The Union Mission merged into the Community Church June 26, 1921, when the church was organized with 32 members. Several denominational church boards were contacted to see what they would require in helping to build a Community Church. All replied they would require the church to be a denominational church if they provided a pastor or material aid. So the little group decided to set about, raising funds for a Community Church, and for four years used the school as a place to meet. It has remained a church for all the people in the community, and is still the only church in town. The present building was dedicated on July 11, 1926.

For many years the church was served by various ministers of several denominations in the area, with a different preacher each Sunday. Almost all the regular pastors have been of the Congregational Christian persuasion; they seem to fit into a church of this type better than ministers of other denominations.

The building dedicated in 1926 still serves the church for worship and four Sunday School rooms. The Church School had grown to the extent that three years ago a new building was erected to take care of the increase. This is now overflowing and plans are underway for building additional space to provide for the increase.

The church has a Community Choir, directed by Captain Philip Long of Eglin Air Force Base, which is recognized as the best choir in the area; an active Missionary Society and a Men's Club.

Since the Community Church is not affiliated with any denomination, the question is sometimes asked about its missionary interests and giving. It

gives a small amount each year to the Southeast Convention, since that is the fellowship of which the pastor is a member. It contributes also to the American Bible Society, the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., the World Council of Churches and has participated for the past four years in the One Great Hour of Sharing. The church also does some local and home mission work, and the Missionary Society and the Men's Club each have several projects.

The disadvantage of the church not being affiliated with any denomination is that it misses the fellowship with other Christians which is so necessary to churches and to individuals. The pastor has been and still is, after five years, active in the associations and conferences of the Southeast Convention. This provides him with the opportunity of fellowship with brother ministers and churches.

The membership of the Community Church is composed of Baptists, Methodists, Presbyterians, (3 kinds) Episcopalians, Universalists, Congregational Christians, Church of Christ, Disciples of Christ, Lutherans, former Catholics and perhaps others. It is truly a non-sectarian church with the motto, "A non-denominational house of worship for the entire community."

The pastor has been asked several times if he does not find it difficult to preach to such a congregation. His answer is always the same: "No; in my preaching I interpret the Bible and religion as I understand them and try to apply them to life in such a way as to make them helpful to people in their daily living. This I do, regardless of the church in which I may be preaching."

Can any preacher do differently?

We give you a hearty invitation to visit us in Valparaiso, "The Valley of Paradise," located on the shores of beautiful Choctawhatchee Bay where the breezes from the Gulf of Mexico make music in the tall pines.

Au Revoir





Georgia Women's Fellowship Retreat

The 1953 Retreat of the Congregational Christian Women's Fellowship in Georgia was held at Camp Waycross, Ga. on Aug. 21 with the state president, Mrs. Peter Doherty, presiding. In the absence of the secretary, Mrs. Means, Mrs. Ione Kirkland was appointed acting secretary. About forty women were present.

The following committees were appointed by the President: Resolutions Committee, Mrs. D. W. Shepherd, Chm.; Mrs. B. W. James, Mrs. Albert Mixon; Nominating Committee, Mrs. McAdams, Mrs. Spires, and Mrs. Wilds.

Reports were given on Spring Rallies and Association and Conference meetings. In the discussion on Goals, it was the consensus of opinion that a committee on goals should be appointed and that goals should be set up on a state-wide basis. Mrs. W. F. Wynn, Rt. 2, Waycross, was appointed Goals Chairman, and each Society was requested to send Mrs. Wynn any suggestions they might have for goals for the Woman's Fellowship for next year.

Mrs. Peter Doherty gave a most interesting and informative report of her recent trip to Scotland and Ireland. She spoke of the difference in church construction—the churches over there being of brick, stone or block construction; and noted the difference in the atmosphere in their church groups. They seemed much more reverent in their churches than we do here. There is more stress on spiritual interests than social activities among the youth groups there; and the cry for more ministers was heard everywhere we went. Mrs. Doherty said that her trip had made her appreciate America more, and particularly our religious liberties and freedoms, and stressed the importance of all people of America learning to be more appreciative of their churches.

Following a devotional by Mrs. Spires, of Columbus, an impromptu program was led by Mrs. B. W. James, Pearson. The topic was "Motivating Our Tasks" and those taking part were Mrs. J. D. Bazemore, Mrs. Ione Kirkland, Mrs. Ruth Bonne and Mrs. D. W. Shepherd.

After this program Mrs. Shepherd gave a most

(Please turn to page 16)

The J. J. Carter Memorial Scholarship, Southern Union College

Jarrett Jefferson Carter lived his entire life in the Truitt and Wadley Communities. He was born at Truitt December 9, 1873, and died at Wadley March 6, 1953. A devoted Christian, he gave himself to the people of his community regardless of their church affiliation. He was in a real sense a "lay minister."

Mr. Carter was one of the early trustees of Southern Union College. He was concerned that the young people of the area should have an opportunity to get a college education. At one time he pledged his farm in order to secure enough money to carry on the work of the College.

Scholarship Fund

For one who was so interested and concerned about his community, it was not hard to decide what would be a worthwhile memorial. The Men's Bible Class of the Union Sunday School voted to promote the establishment of the J. J. CARTER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND. The amount raised will be invested and the income used for scholarship aid to worthy young men and women interested in full-time Christian service.

Payable in the years 1953 and 1954, a total of \$1300 has been subscribed by Edward Allen, H. G. Bradshaw, Bill Bailey, Bob Bailey, J. C. Bailey, J. C. Bailey, Jr., A. D. Cotney Sons, C. C. Dollar, David Eddy, W. C. Edge, Fred Ensminger, W. B. Fackler, Clyde C. Flannery, Owen E. Frost, J. H. Fuller, W. C. Gay, Dwight Hall, J. R. Harris, Wyatt Lee Harris, L. T. Hodge, Hugh W. Overton, E. Hurley Pearson, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Pearson, J. V. Perry, R. B. Prater, P. B. Smith, A. R. Van Cleave and Vera Van Cleave.

This fund is to be PERPETUAL. It will always be kept intact. The interest on it will start out ministers and religious leaders regardless of denomination.

Brother Jarrett Carter was God's man, devoted to the love of his fellow men and good works. A gift to the fund will go on and on doing good after all of us are gone. If you wish to have a part in the Ministerial Scholarship, you can write to Southern Union College, Wadley, Ala., for information and a pledge card.

Committee on the Memorial: W. C. Edge, Fred P. Ensminger, Hugh W. Overton, Clyde C. Flannery, E. Hurley Pearson, Jr.

Southern Union College

According to President Clyde C. Flannery, the **Rev. Clarence Stewart**, formerly of Andalusia, Ala., is an addition to the faculty and will be teaching Bible, English and some recreational classes.

The Rev. Joe A. French, chairman of the Board of Trustees of the college, spoke at the Chapel on September 30.

Later in the day a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees was held.

President Flannery reports a 20% increase in enrollment at Southern Union this year.

Our Trip to Europe

By Peter Doherty

I am somewhat shy about writing of our trip to Europe this past summer and feel unworthy of even being financially able to make such a wonderful trip. My wife and I traveled on the Britannica, a lovely ship. We met an old friend, the Rev. Lee Cole, on board. Since we had not seen him for over fifteen years, we naturally had a grand week talking of the old friends and old days.

When we arrived in Belfast, Northern Ireland, all our kin folks who could possibly make it were there on the pier with two cars. We had breakfast with my wife's younger sister and her family, then drove twenty-five miles to Mrs. Doherty's old home where we were entertained during our two month's vacation.

A big conference was being held including ministers and laymen from all over Ireland, both North and South. This meeting gave us a wonderful opportunity to meet many friends whom we had not seen for over thirty years. The Rev. Lee Cole, our traveling companion on the Britannic, introduced us to the Conference. The sad note about the Conference was the cry for men and only one young man offered himself as a candidate for the ministry.

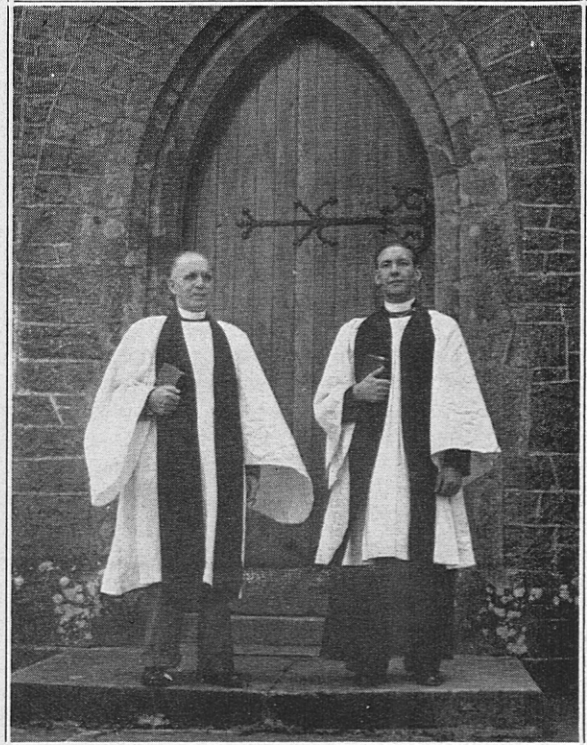
We had the joy of visiting our large Congregational Church, Donabell St., Belfast, where a very dear and old friend of ours is the pastor—Dr. Alexandria Carins. It was most distressing to see our nice people having to worship in an old basement, as their beautiful church had been destroyed during the blitz when so much damage was done to churches of all denominations and blocks and blocks of homes were wiped out. Another minister told me he had buried twenty-five of his church members one morning. Although that minister was a comparatively young man he was aged and grey.

We traveled all over Ireland having one great experience after another, but perhaps the most thrilling was to preach twice in the State Church (Episcopal) at my old home, where the Rev. Victor Foster is the Rector. Mr. Foster is a remarkable man and we hope to have him visit us before too long. I also preached to a full house in the church which I joined in 1904.

Mrs. Doherty and her sister, Mrs. R. Vance, at-



HOME OF REV. PETER DOHERTY IN IRELAND



REV. DOHERTY AND REV. VICTOR FOSTER

tended the International Council in St. Andrews, Scotland. It was a great experience for them to meet and greet Congregational Christians from so many different countries.

It was interesting to visit London, England, and Paris, France, but the most interesting place to me was the old home where I was born and which had been in our family for five generations.

The greatest thrill of all came when we viewed the Statue of Liberty at New York, the next great thrill was the royal welcome given by our church people, who surprised us with a big chicken supper in the Church Annex.

This year on Oct. 11 the North Highland Church will celebrate its Fiftieth Anniversary. We are hoping to pay off the last of about \$7,000 spent on building and improvements during the past two years.

The Rev. Peter Doherty is pastor of the North Highland Church, Columbus, Ga.

A Prayer for World Order

Oh God, who hast appointed a day when the kingdom of this world shall become the Kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ; quicken our loyalty to thee, that we may now and always choose Thy will as our will, Thy way as our way, Thy peace as our peace. So lock our fortunes to Thy purpose that we may be satisfied with nothing less than a world at unity with itself, and, in abiding fellowship, win for mankind that freedom and mutual trust which will enable all nations to bring their glory and honor into Thy Kingdom; through Him who came to set men free, Jesus our King.

Amen

Christian Vocational Conferences

By Howard E. Spragg

Words have a way of losing or changing their meaning with the passage of time. It is said that when St. Paul's Cathedral was completed the architect was very pleased to have the king describe it as "amusing", "awful", and "artificial."

Pleased? Yes, because in those days "amusing" meant "amazing", "awful" meant "awe-inspiring", and "artificial" meant "artistic." One of the great words of the Protestant tradition has been "vocation." This fundamentally Christian word now connotes, even to most Protestants, such terms as "vocational guidance" or "vocational agriculture." But we are beginning to recapture its historic significance and to see its relevance to the mission of the Church today.

We Protestants believe in "the priesthood of all believers." We believe that in any work (with few exceptions) a man may have "a holy calling." We have forgotten this heritage, forgotten that, in these days especially, the laity, guided by the clergy, can be the shock troops in the evangelistic efforts of the Church. For this job it is important that our lay people see their daily work as a calling of God. Dorothy L. Sayers, a leading British church woman (and top-flight detective story writer!) has said: "It is the business of the church to recognize that the secular vocation, as such, is sacred. Christian people and particularly the Christian clergy, must get it firmly into their heads that when a man or woman is called to a particular job of secular work that is as true a vocation as though he or she were called to a specifically religious work."

In recent years Protestant leaders, especially in Europe, have been re-awakened to the latent power of this idea. There are many signs that the spiritual climate of our own country may be more than ready for an evangelistic thrust at this level. A number of recent best sellers have dealt with the lack of spiritual significance in so many of the necessary daily tasks. In the matter of on-the-job ethics we have Senator Paul Douglas writing about "Ethics in Government", and in the professions vigorous discussions are going on about fee-splitting, kick-backs, etc. A recent study by Columbia University, in analyzing the resistance to retirement among older people, finds that especially to older people **work** is a way of life. It is through work that the individual makes social contacts, expresses his creative interests, makes a contribution to society and acquires some status.

Among our own churches there have been some significant developments in this regard. A recent article in **The Christian Century** describes the amazing response of the people of historic Old South Church in Boston as they met with this concern in mind. Our churches in Puerto Rico have sponsored conferences, involving hundreds of their members and friends, for worship, study, and fellowship. Some five hundred public school teachers have been meeting three or four times a year over the last four years studying their jobs in the light of the Gospel; farmers and physicians have met; meetings are projected for lawyers,

United Nations Week - October 18-24, 1953

On October 24, 1953—United Nations Day—the UN will be eight years old. During this brief period, the UN has made a significant record.

The UN has, to be sure, been frustrated in some of its attempts to develop a larger measure of world order. But it has also many achievements to its credit. It has successfully carried through the peaceful settlement of several involved international disputes. It has done highly constructive work in the economic and social areas.

Above all, the United Nations since June 1950 has been—and still is—making a valiant stand in Korea against overt aggression, seeking to find effective ways to attain a workable collective security.

The Old and New Testaments as well as the long tradition of church and synagogue teach that there are no easy ways to limit the egotism, national pride and self-righteousness, and stubborn injustices which lead to disputes and wars among nations.

Our religious faith underlines the interdependence of mankind. No nation can any longer go it alone. In our mid-twentieth century world nations will **together** rise to a more abundant life or else **together** will push themselves back to a more primitive level of existence. The UN is the best available instrument through which nations can work together and learn to cooperate more fully.

Our religious faith also teaches us to be patient, even while never losing the sense of urgency that impels us to work indefatigably and continuously for justice and peace, for mercy and reconciliation. The road to international peace is long and tortuous, but we keep pressing forward on it because we take the long view. We can do so because we know that the purposes of God over-arch the wrecks of time.

Therefore we commit ourselves to the process of working to build peace with Justice, through debate, negotiation, and cooperation among the nations in whatever areas we can find to unite our efforts. Therefore we seek to use as fully as possible the instrument of the United Nations.

United Nations Day and United Nations Week give churches, synagogues and other religious organizations a signal opportunity to develop a deeper understanding of and concern for the world organization which is dedicated to a single supreme task: to rid the earth of the war scourge.

social workers and certain classes of government employees. Those who have participated in such groups have caught a new sense of the demands of the Gospel on their whole lives and have been seized by a new urgency to communicate the Gospel to others.

The Rev. Howard E. Spragg is Secretary of the A.M.A. Division of the Board of Home Missions. His field of responsibility includes all of our work in Puerto Rico and the A.M.A. secondary schools and community centers in the southeast.

MEDITATIONS

The Treasure

The task of the teacher, said the wise Hassidic rabbi, is to uncover the wisdom which lies concealed within the heart of his student. But the student must go and learn from men before he can discover that treasure which lies within him.

It is like unto the story of Rabbi Isaac, son of Rabbi Jacob of Cracow. After many years of great poverty which had never shaken his faith in God, he dreamed that someone bade him look for a treasure in Prague, under the bridge which leads to the king's palace. When the dream recurred a third time, Rabbi Isaac prepared for the journey and set out for Prague. But the bridge was guarded day and night and he did not dare start digging. Nevertheless he went to the bridge every morning and kept walking around it until evening.

Finally, the captain of the guards, who had been watching him, asked in a kindly way whether he was looking for something or waiting for somebody. Rabbi Isaac told him of the dream which had brought him here from his faraway country. The captain laughed: "And so, poor fellow, to please the dream, you wore out your shoes to come here. As for having faith in dreams, if I had had it, I should have had to go traveling when a dream once told me to go to Cracow and dig for treasure under the stove in the room of Rabbi Isaac, son of Jacob. Isaac, son of Jacob, that was the name! I can just imagine what it would be like. I would have had to try every house over there, where one-half of the people are named, Isaac, and the other Jacob!" And he laughed again.

Rabbi Isaac, son of Jacob, native of Cracow, bowed gratefully to the good captain, traveled home, dug up the treasure from under the stove, and with it built a House of Prayer.

We Must Keep Building

Ever since the first colony was settled in this country, ours has been an expanding community of church builders. We have built these "citadels of faith," as President Eisenhower has so aptly described them, in the belief that no person or society can be saved from the evils which continually threaten their existence, unless they have been permeated by the spirit that was in Christ Jesus.

It may be true that, for the past generation or so, we who call ourselves liberal Protestants seem to have behaved as though we actually expected God to provide us, together with most other contemporary Christians, with some other agency more effective than the church for the proclamation of the gospel in our sophisticated modern society.

But more recently, a reawakened Protestantism, faced by the fact that an unchurched community, no matter how well-favored in other respects, deteriorates very soon into a spiritual and social wasteland, has become more realistic.

As a result, we Protestants are energetically at work again, building new churches and extending the church's message and ministry in an effort to keep pace with population increases and trends. Impressive numbers of new edifices are rising everywhere today—in the open countryside, amid the

mammoth housing projects that have mushroomed since the war, and in great cities and growing towns from coast to coast.

In a well-considered process of religious conservation, large numbers of older churches in rural and metropolitan areas also are being reconstituted on new lines. No longer do they watch with helpless grief the fading of their beloved spiritual fellowship. Because they understand that a changing community still calls for their ministry, though in different ways, these churches are being rehabilitated, both physically and spiritually.

Into the record of this confused decade through which our historic fellowship is living, there will thus be written some magnificent stories of determination, sacrifice and vision. The character structures of whole neighborhoods are being changed; and with these social changes have come significant changes in the attitudes of many of those responsible for them.

Because of these and other vital experiences of our fellow Christians as they build or recondition their churches, and because we believe that the church must be a functioning force and a creative influence in society if the moral and spiritual foundations of our common life are to be maintained in strength. Our denomination is engaged in a national Building Fund Campaign. Let us keep in mind the need as, in the next two years, we share in this program.

—Advance

LET'S FINISH THE JOB!

(From page 3)

available to people. Every last one of us recognizes this as a personal responsibility as Christians.

Send in Declarations of Purpose. Let this be your witness to Christ and the strengthening of His church. See to it that your church has done its part. Then pay the Declaration as soon as possible so the money can be put to use in building churches to the Glory of God and the benefit of man.

Area III Church Building Loan Fund
Nelson C. Dreier, Director

THE GIDEON CLUB OF CHURCH BUILDERS

(From page 9)

Churches receiving such aid expected to report on their building progress from time to time to the Board of Trustees. The following foregoing procedures shall apply in all cases. The Board shall have the right to change or modify these procedures only upon the majority vote of the membership in attendance at any annual or special meeting of the club.

Section 2. Eligibility:

To qualify for Grant Aid a new church must belong to an association or conference having a club membership equal to 25% or more of the total active membership of the Congregational Christian Churches within the given area at the time the request is made.

Requests for aid should first be voted by the local church in a duly constituted meeting and

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Atlanta, Georgia

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If each subscriber would send in not only his own renewal, but an additional subscription from a friend, our subscription total would double and we would have the 1,000 subscribers we need to make the magazine self-supporting.

The magazine is your means of keeping in touch with the other churches and members of the Southeast Convention. Through reading it each month you will be aware of what is going on in other churches, what committees are meeting and their findings and recommendations, future plans and program of the Board of Directors and the committee chairmen, and reports of all meetings held in the area.

This is a very wide area, and about the only way the fellowship can keep in touch is through such a magazine which endeavors to distribute information to each pastor, each church and each subscriber.

Convention Activities Calendar

- Oct. 2 - Survey & Church Aid Committee Meeting in Atlanta
- Oct. 4 - World-Wide Communion Sunday
- Oct. 5 - Southeastern Superintendent's Meeting in Greenville, S. C.
- Oct. 11 - Laymen's Churchmanship Institute at Southern Union College, Wadley, Ala.
- Oct. 14-15 - East Alabama Association Meeting, Lanett Church, Lanett, Ala.
- Oct. 18 - Laymen's Sunday
- Oct. 21-22 - Georgia Conference at United Church in Columbus, Ga.
- Oct. 24 - Work Day for Christ
- Oct. 25 - World Order Sunday
- Oct. 24-25 - Ky.-Tenn. Conference in Stearns, Ky.
- Oct. 27-28 - Alabama Conference at Antioch Church, Andalusia, Ala.
- Nov. 1 - Reformation Sunday and Religion in American Life Month.

then submitted in writing to the club President or Secretary as hereinbefore provided.

ARTICLE VIII. AMENDMENTS

This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any annual meeting of the club provided that a notice specifying the substance of the proposed amendment shall have been mailed to every member at least one month prior to the meeting at which action is requested.

Church News

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meeting and election of officers on Sept. 1, electing the following slate of officers for the coming year: President, J. N. Rumph; Vice President, Phillip Boss, Jr.; Secretary, Eugene Blanton; Treasurer, W. K. Powers. The men enjoyed refreshments and a fellowship hour together.

Eleven members of the Phenix City laymen's group attended the last quarterly meeting of the fellowship, which was held at Noon Day Church in Wedowee, Ala.

Rev. Lowell A. Smoot, pastor

The Rev. M. O. Worley has accepted the call from the **Alexander City, Hunt Memorial Church** and will be taking over the duties of pastor soon.

Our former pastor, the Rev. M. L. Thrasher, and his family moved to Hanceville, Ala., in September. We all miss them, and hope and pray for his speedy recovery. Our loss was Hanceville's gain.

During the weeks we have been without a pastor, we have had the pulpit filled by some fine men as supplies. Each one has been a great joy and a source of inspiration to the congregation. We are thankful for all the cooperation we have received from other churches and pastors, and are looking forward to great days ahead under the leadership of the Rev. M. O. Worley.

Mrs. James Cumbee

The **North Georgia Parish**, comprised of four churches—Macedonia, Bowman, Liberty, Buford, Duncan's Creek, and Oxford, Sardis—has called the Rev. Scott Morris, Jr. as pastor.

Mr. Morris will be moving into the parsonage soon and will commute to school at the University of Georgia in Athens, where he is working on his Masters degree.

The Rev. A. C. Nelson, formerly pastor of the Andalusia, First Church, has accepted a call to the **West Point, Bethel Church**, where he assumed his pastorate on October 1st.

WORK DAY FOR CHRIST

Through Workdays for Christ in every Pilgrim Fellowship across the land, those who are "the church when young" answer the call of Christ, "Follow Me." Each year the young people in our churches set aside a day in which they perform odd jobs and dedicate the proceeds of their labor to **Our Christian World Mission**. Saturday, October 24th, has been chosen as Workday for Christ this year.

GEORGIA WOMEN'S RETREAT

(From page 12)

interesting and entertaining book review of *Where're the Sun.*

After a brief discussion of the Women's Gift, and an expression of appreciation to the ladies of the South Georgia Association for the splendid manner in which the Retreat had been entertained, Mrs. Doherty closed the meeting by giving the benediction.